



Table 9.—SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS OF GENERAL FARMS BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM: 1959

Item	Economic class of general farms						
	All general farms	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V	Class VI
Average per farm:							
Land in farms.....acres.....	281.2	1,444.8	554.1	348.9	251.9	181.7	134.3
Cropland harvested.....acres.....	134.5	621.8	278.2	186.1	129.5	77.9	38.4
Value of land and buildings.....dollars.....	41,617	288,658	97,017	58,342	35,092	21,247	11,778
Tractors (other than garden).....number.....	1.8	5.5	3.1	2.3	1.8	1.3	0.8
Regular hired workers.....persons.....	0.2	3.7	0.9	0.2	0.1	-----	-----
Cattle and calves.....number.....	24.6	111.1	52.5	33.9	23.2	14.7	7.2
Hogs and pigs.....number.....	29.9	49.0	50.2	48.8	32.8	17.3	8.5
Expenditures for—							
Feed for livestock and poultry.....dollars.....	1,075	5,008	2,525	1,732	971	505	205
Purchase of livestock and poultry.....dollars.....	644	6,394	2,129	893	420	203	74
Hired labor.....dollars.....	775	14,514	2,568	741	303	159	65
Gasoline and other petroleum fuel and oil for the farm business.....dollars.....	629	4,016	1,428	856	552	328	159
Value of all farm products sold.....dollars.....	9,714	89,198	26,343	13,548	7,148	3,724	1,474
Value of all crops sold.....dollars.....	5,728	69,797	16,061	7,107	3,627	1,974	854
Value of livestock and livestock products sold.....dollars.....	3,986	19,401	10,282	6,441	3,521	1,751	620
Percent of farms with—							
Tractors (other than garden).....	88.5	98.8	97.7	96.6	93.2	86.7	61.7
Grain combines.....	45.7	64.7	68.6	65.0	53.0	32.1	13.7
Corn pickers.....	37.9	32.7	49.3	55.6	46.1	26.9	10.2
Motortrucks.....	70.5	97.7	92.5	83.6	71.4	63.0	49.6
1 or more regular hired workers.....	10.5	78.0	42.5	16.1	6.3	3.3	0.8
Farm operator 55 or more years of age.....	33.0	22.5	21.2	21.4	29.2	41.7	43.5
Farm operator working off the farm.....	32.9	20.1	26.2	29.3	33.3	38.7	29.6
Farm operator working off the farm 100 or more days.....	11.4	7.6	6.8	7.8	11.4	19.8	-----
Income of farm operator from sources other than the farm operated greater than value of agricultural products sold.....	10.1	3.9	4.2	4.3	8.9	21.4	-----

Miscellaneous Farms.—The 37,155 miscellaneous commercial farms comprised, principally, farms producing nursery and greenhouse products, although the total includes some farms on which the sale of forest products or of horses was the principal source of income. The sale of horticultural specialty crops accounted for 81 percent and the value of forest products for approximately 11 percent of the value of all farm products sold. More than three-fourths of the value of all farm products were sold from the 7,900 farms with a value of farm products sold of \$20,000 or more.

CHANGES IN FARMS BY TYPE

Changes in Farms by Type by Size of Operation, 1950–1959.—The classification by type of farm and by size of operation groups farms having a high degree of uniformity in the kind, relative amount of farm products produced, and in methods and practices followed in production. Because of changes in the grouping of farms by economic class, comparable data are available for only three sizes of operations for each type of farm for the censuses of